

Application No.: 10/532786

Case No.: 57832US005

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please cancel the previous abstract and replace it with the following new abstract which has been substantially rewritten and therefore is presented without markings:

Please replace the Abstract with the following replacement Abstract:

A head cleaning device for ink jet printers, which permits refresh operation of the recording head to be performed easily and quickly, and which has a simple and compact structure. The head cleaning device is used in an ink jet printer between a recording head and a recording medium and has a major surface that is equal to or greater than an ink ejection surface of the recording head, and is constructed such that it includes on the major surface a head cleaning member having a multiplicity of parallel and fine ink discharging grooves so as to permit waste ink to flow in a definite direction.